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NEWS DEPARTMENT.

New History of the State of Washington.

A four-volume history of the State of Washington is being prepared by The Century History Company, of New York, of which E. O. Wilson is the moving spirit in this State. The editor of the work is Clinton A. Snowden, of Tacoma. The associate editors are Judge Cornelius H. Hanford, of Seattle; William A. Tyler, of Tacoma, and former Governor Miles C. Moore, of Walla Walla. The work is being sold by subscription at the price of \$25 for the entire work, even if it should be found necessary to put out more than the four volumes promised. Mr. Snowden's long association with newspaper work in this State has given him a good equipment for the undertaking. The history promises to be a valuable addition to the literature of the Pacific Northwest.

A Massacre on the Frontier.

The article on this subject was written by Major Joel Graham, of the United States Army. It was copied and forwarded to the Quarterly by Will J. Trimble, instructor of history in the High School of Spokane.

Professor Bourne's Death.

The death on February 24th, 1908, at New Haven of Professor Edward Gaylord Bourne, of Yale University, is worthy of more than passing notice by the readers of history in the Pacific Northwest because of his special interest in the history of Oregon acquisition, his valuable contributions upon that subject, and the general acceptance of his conclusions by the members of the American Historical Association. The thoroughness of his research and the systematic arrangement of his material the writer of this brief notice is able to vouch for by reason of having been given personal access thereto. That his conclusions were carried into controversy was of course inevitable, but quite

against his preference or desire and participation; for he himself was by early training and later choice a faithful member of the Congregational Church and supporter of missionary enterprises, and his contributions were solely in the interest of the truth of history.

Professor Bourne was born in Strykersville, N. Y., on June 24th, 1860. He entered and was graduated at Yale with the class of 1883, devoting special attention to history during his course. Soon after graduation he was made instructor in history at Yale, and after two years resigned to take a similar position at Adelbert College, in Cleveland, Ohio, where in 1890 he became a full professor of history. In 1895 a new chair of history was established at Yale, to which Professor Bourne was chosen, and which he retained until his death.

Professor Bourne's best known book is perhaps the "Spain in America" of the American Nation Series, published in 1904. Earlier than that he wrote "The Life of J. L. Motley," "Historical Introduction to the Philippine Islands," "Essays in Historical Criticism" and "History of the Surplus Revenue of 1837." The greater part of his work, perhaps, was in the editing of a number of books, among them "The Voyages of Champlain," "The Narrative of De Soto," "Rocher's Spanish Colonial System," "The Chase Papers" and Fournier's "Napoleon I." He was a co-editor of the "Yale Review" and a frequent contributor to the American Historical Quarterly, in which during 1906 appeared a brief but valuable criticism of the career of Jonathan Carver, to whom has been given the honor of the first use of the name "Oregon" in literature. Professor Bourne indicated that in all probability this was merely a copy from some earlier manuscripts of French explorers. The mutability of memory and the importance of following contemporary writings and records, as against the later recollections of man or woman, were given prominence in both the teaching and writings of Professor Bourne; in other words, the need of relying upon scientific study of history for any final conclusions.

As a member of the American Historical Association Professor Bourne was connected with its more important committees and enjoyed a wide acquaintance. He was considered one of its most valuable members and promoters. In the summer of 1905 he accepted an invitation to be present at the historical conference held at Portland, Oregon, in connection with the Lewis and Clark Exposition, and delivered one of the prominent

addresses at that gathering. He was afterward made an honorary member of the Oregon Historical Society.

The immediate cause of his death was an operation connected with a disease of the hip.

T. C. ELLIOTT.

**The Possibilities of South American History and Politics
as a Field for Research.**

With the above title, a paper was read before the American Political Science Association at its annual meeting on December 28, 1907, by Dr. Hiram Bingham, of Yale University. The paper was published in the *Monthly Bulletin of the International Bureau of American Republics* for February, 1908, "in accordance with that bureau's present policy of advancing the mutual literary interests of North and South America." The material in the paper is based on a card catalogue of South America on which Dr. Bingham has been engaged at intervals for seven years. The material available for such research work is discussed in a scholarly manner, and the writer concludes as follows: "And so this list might be prolonged, but perhaps enough has been said to show that there is far more material available in this country for South American research than is generally supposed, and that the opportunity for scholarly work in the field of South American history and politics is an uncommonly good one."

Inland Empire Historical Society.

The Inland Empire Historical Society held its annual meeting at Pullman, Washington, on April 7th in connection with the Teachers' Institute of three or more counties of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Professor W. D. Lyman, of Whitman College, presided over the sessions, and by way of annual address read one of the chapters of his forthcoming book on the "History of the Columbia River" in the *Historic Waterways Series*. Mr. T. R. Tannatt, of Spokane, gave an address upon the "Early Transportation in the Inland Empire," and Professor Will J. Trimble, of the Spokane High School, read a paper upon "Relations Between the History and the Physiography of the Inland Empire." Mr. T. C. Elliott, of Walla Walla, read a brief paper upon the "Early History of Walla Walla

County." The feature of the meeting was the address in the evening by Mr. Clark Prescott Bissett, of Seattle, upon "Abraham Lincoln," which was listened to with deep attention by a large audience comprising largely the visiting teachers. The officers of the society for the coming year are Mr. T. C. Elliott, of Walla Walla, President, and Mr. F. F. Nalder, of the State College, Pullman, Secretary and Treasurer, and an Executive Committee yet to be named. The object of this organization is to arouse interest in local history research through local clubs or sections in the counties and cities of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. It was organized in Spokane two years ago. The present meeting was under the arrangement of Professor W. B. Beach, of the Washington State College.

Albert Bushnell Hart.

This well known author of works on American history has reached another Sabbatical year in his long career as a member of the faculty at Harvard and will devote that year to a tour of the world with his family, leaving Seattle for the Orient early in August. He will give a course of thirty lectures on "American Diplomacy" in the University of Washington Summer School just before sailing for Japan. Next winter Professor Hart will be promoted from the vice-presidency to the presidency of the American Historical Association. This is the highest honor of the kind attainable in America.